

sponsors and managers of housing and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and low-income families.

RHF was formed in 1961 by three visionaries: two California United Church of Christ clergymen and one layman. The organization, which began with a \$7,000 grant, today operates 161 communities in 25 states throughout the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. While these communities are comprised of mostly apartments, RHF also provides senior housing with assisted living units and skilled nursing beds.

A total of four RHF communities are located within the 34th District. The Rio Vista Village for low-income families is located in Boyle Heights. RHF operates three communities for low-income seniors: Colonia Jess Lopez in Boyle Heights, which is named after a strong community activist and outspoken advocate of older Americans whom I was proud to call a friend; Sangnok Villa in Westlake; and Angelus Plaza in Downtown Los Angeles.

During my years in Congress, I have had the privilege of working closely with RHF as a member of the Advisory Council for Angelus Plaza—the nation's largest affordable housing community for seniors in the country. Angelus Plaza is the only facility of its kind in the country. Covering two city blocks and two postal zip codes, it has nearly 1,100 apartments. Angelus Plaza is home to 1,300 independent seniors whose average age is 82.

RHF prides itself on its culturally diverse programs and services offered to Angelus Plaza's residents who speak more than 10 different languages. Angelus Plaza's six-story senior center offers more than 100 monthly classes and activities for seniors throughout the Greater Los Angeles Area. The complex also houses the Tom Bradley Senior Health Center (operated by Good Samaritan Hospital) as well as a continuation high school operated by the L.A. Unified School District and office space for more than 10 non-profit organizations and senior groups.

In addition, RHF continues to partner with local organizations and government agencies to secure support and funding for affordable housing throughout the country. RHF preserves properties within the HUD inventory by acquiring those properties in danger of becoming market rate.

RHF also reinvests in its own properties to ensure that they remain viable affordable communities for decades to come. In the last five years, RHF invested more than \$95.9 million to rehabilitate and update existing communities.

RHF takes its role as an affordable housing advocate seriously. As a respected national voice in this area, Dr. Laverne Joseph, RHF's President and CEO, has testified before various Congressional Committees about a variety of affordable housing-related issues.

Mr. Speaker, as the organization prepares to mark its 50-year milestone at a special February 18 anniversary celebration at their annual conference in Downtown Long Beach, I ask my colleagues to please join the Los Angeles County community and me in recognizing the Retirement Housing Foundation for its steadfast commitment to providing quality, safe and affordable housing and services for America's seniors, low-income families and persons with disabilities.

I also commend RHF's Board Chair, Don King, its National Board of Directors, its Presi-

dent & CEO, Dr. Joseph and the 2,600 dedicated staff throughout the country who make this organization the safety net that it is today for thousands of America's most vulnerable residents and I wish them many more years of continued success.

MR. AND MRS. LEO MILLS 58TH  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY REC-  
OGNITION

### HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 58th Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Mills.

Esther Mills, born Esther Jean House, is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Raymond House of Towanda, Pennsylvania. Silas Leo Mills is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Mills also of Towanda. Prior to their union in marriage, Esther attended Troy High School and Leo attended New Albany High School. Leo entered the United States Army during the Korean War and in September 1952, he was honorably discharged after serving our country for three years.

The couple was then joined in marriage at 2:00 p.m. on February 1, 1953 at the Monroeton Methodist Church. Reverend Glenn Stewart performed the union and Mrs. Fay Arnold provided the music for the ceremony, "I Love You Truly" and the "Bridal March." The sister of the bride, Mrs. Kenneth Bouse, served as the matron of honor, and Mr. Kenneth Bouse served as the best man. The groom's brother, Stanley Mills, and the groom's cousin, Vern Perry Jr., served as ushers for the ceremony. The Church was decorated with white gladiolas and ferns and the reception was held right there in the basement of the Church.

Following their union, the couple spent their first year of marriage living in Buffalo, New York while Leo worked at Western Electric. The couple then moved back to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and built their home on a farm in Sheshequin Township where they raised their six children: Marsha, Connie, Colleen, Lewis, Silas, and Marlene.

Leo and Esther worked together to maintain the farm and the couple raised veal calves as well as dairy cows. In addition to maintaining the farm, Leo worked for many years at Ingersoll Rand in Athens. Esther worked for a number of years at JV Discount in Wysox and later, at Dupont in Towanda.

Both Leo and Esther are proud members of the Towanda American Legion and its Auxiliary and the Northeast Memorial VFW Post 6824 and its Auxiliary. They remain very active in the community and participate in the annual Veterans Appreciation Day Picnic.

Leo and Esther are much beloved by their family that has grown now to include their six adult children as well as eleven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Leo and Esther Mills are now married 58 years. I am proud to rise today in their honor and salute their commitment to one another, their growing family, their community, and our nation.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE "END BIG OIL TAX SUBSIDIES ACT"

### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as Congress prepares to consider a draconian continuing resolution next week that will include painful cuts to important programs, I'm pleased to announce legislation that will save American taxpayers almost \$40 billion over the next 5 years.

Right now, Americans are subsidizing some of the largest and most profitable oil companies in the world with their tax dollars.

This bill, the "End Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act," would end 10 of the most egregious tax loopholes enjoyed by the oil industry—tax loopholes that have helped BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil and Shell make a combined profit of nearly \$1 trillion over the past decade.

In the tax code, we currently subsidize oil injection, extraction, exploration, drilling, manufacturing, pricing, and inventory valuing, by creating price floors, offsetting foreign taxes, providing generous credits and deductions, offering tax shelters, and allowing the valuation of inventories at deeply discounted prices.

The well-established and extremely profitable oil industry no longer needs the help of American taxpayers. Their profit margins are enough incentive for them to keep doing what they're doing. As former President George W. Bush said in 2005, "I will tell you with \$55 oil we don't need incentives to the oil and gas companies to explore. There are plenty of incentives."

There are many better ways to spend \$40 billion. It could be used to deficit or stave off some of the most painful cuts proposed by my Republican friends—such as LIHEAP funds, which help low-income Americans pay their utility bills so they can keep their heat on in the winter.

We could also redirect the subsidies in the tax code to level the playing field for emerging technologies like wind and solar. This is where the jobs are: A University of Massachusetts study found that investment in clean energy creates anywhere from two to four times more direct and indirect jobs compared to the same investment in oil and gas production.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important legislation.

### HONORING WILLIAM FARMER WILSON

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, one hundred years ago a tenacious man of God was born in Ringold, Virginia, on November 25, 1910; and

Whereas, Mr. William Farmer Wilson graduated from North Carolina State University with a B.S. in Agricultural Education; and served as a Teacher, and Principal; and

Whereas, he served our country in World War II in the Air Force, Retiring as a Lt. Colonel, and received recognition and medals for